



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

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WIFA Presents “Best Technical Assistance Project of the Year” Award

FLORENCE –Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona Chairman Steve Owens today presented a WIFA Project of the Year Award to the Town of Florence for their Wastewater Master Plan project. WIFA awarded the town with a \$20,000 technical assistance grant to complete the plan. The WIFA grant funds the pre-design phase of the master plan project.

The master plan will allow the Town to evaluate the current wastewater treatment and collection system and establish a long-term plan for improvements. The plan will make projections of wastewater flow and investigate developing reclaimed water projects including reuse and recharge. The plan will also develop a strategy for wastewater servicing to ensure that even in the face of growth the town will be able to provide all of its residents with wastewater service.

“Florence’s wastewater system is on the right path to success,” said Chairman Owens, who is also Chairman of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. “Economic development is vital to communities like Florence. This master sewer plan will help guide the Town’s future growth as well as outline the necessary infrastructure investment the Town needs to make to continue vital economic development activities in the area.”

The Town was prompted to prepare a 20-year comprehensive plan for capital improvements to its water system because of an expanding population, failures with the collection system and limitations on the capacity at existing wastewater treatment facilities.

The WIFA Project of the Year awards are given to outstanding WIFA funded projects as demonstrated by their performance in resolving water quality issues, securing public support and cooperative funding efforts. The 2004 WIFA Project of the Year Awards are selected by the WIFA Board of Directors and are awarded each calendar year funding cycle.

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ABOUT THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF ARIZONA

The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. WIFA's funds are capitalized by contributions from the US Congress and the state of Arizona. As a leader in water infrastructure finance, WIFA has become a premier financial institution both in Arizona and nationally. Visit WIFA’s Web site at www.azwifa.gov.